

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A transport system, in particular high-speed baggage handling system for airports, comprising a plurality of driven individual conveyors of modular configuration, said conveyors being placed in succession to define a transport path; and a coupling mechanism for coupling conveyors of the plurality of conveyors to form a mechanical unitary structure.
2. The transport system of claim 1, wherein the mechanical unitary structure includes at least three of said conveyors.
3. The transport system of claim 1, wherein the mechanical unitary structure includes more than ten of said conveyors.
4. The transport system of claim 1, wherein the plurality of conveyors includes a first group of conveyors and a second group of conveyors, wherein each of the conveyors of the first group includes a drive for direct propulsion of the conveyor, wherein the conveyors of the second group of conveyors are indirectly propelled.

5. The transport system of claim 1, wherein at least every third conveyor of the plurality of conveyors includes a motor for propelling the conveyor in transport direction.
6. The transport system of claim 1, wherein every second conveyor of the plurality of conveyors includes a motor for propelling the conveyor in transport direction.
7. The transport system of claim 5, wherein the motor is an asynchronous motor.
8. The transport system of claim 1, and further comprising a transfer conveyor disposed upstream or downstream of the mechanical unitary structure to operate as acceleration and deceleration path.
9. The transport system of claim 1, wherein the coupling mechanism includes a plurality of coupling belts, each coupling belt adapted for pairing neighboring conveyors.
10. The transport system of claim 9, wherein each of conveyors includes two spaced-apart pulleys and a belt guided around the pulleys, wherein adjacent pulleys of neighboring conveyors are paired by the coupling belt.

11. The transport system of claim 1, wherein the coupling mechanism includes a plurality of chain drives, each chain drive adapted for pairing neighboring conveyors.
12. The transport system of claim 1, wherein the coupling mechanism includes a plurality of spur gear mechanisms, each spur gear mechanism adapted for connecting neighboring conveyors.
13. The transport system of claim 1, wherein the mechanical unitary structure is constructed as a high-speed transport sorter in an airport for operation at speeds of equal or greater than 5 m/s.